

STOCK GOSSIP.

In writing to advertisers please mention the Farmer's Advocate.
PROLIFIC BERKSHIRES—PREMIUM OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS OFFERED BY W. E. SPICER, HARVARD, NEBRASKA.

The undersigned claims for the Berkshire breed that the sows are prolific breeders and good sucklers, early that early maturity and profit in feeding are marked characteristics of the breed, while the superior excellence in the quality of the pork of a Berkshire is unquestioned. As an advocate of the claim that the large breed of Berkshires meet all the demands of the breeder and feeder of swine for profit, and the wants of the most critical packer and consumer of pork products for incomparable quality, the following premium is offered for the Berkshire sow whose litter of pigs exceeds in weight at one hundred days after farrow that of any of her competitors. The premium will consist of a boar and two sow pigs of my own breeding, that could not be purchased at private sale for one hundred dollars cash. Conditions—1st. The competing animals must be recorded in the American Berkshire Record, and be the property of the competitor. 2nd. That early notice of intention to compete for said premium must be filed with the Secretary of the American Berkshire Association, Col. Charles F. Mills, Springfield, Illinois. 3rd. That three disinterested and reputable parties shall weigh the sow and pigs one hundred days after farrow, and that said parties shall certify to the weight of the sow and each of the pigs in said litter. 4th. That each competitor shall file with his entry a statement of the method of feeding and caring for the sow prior to farrow, and the attention and character of rations given the sow and pigs from date of farrow until the expiration of the one hundred day test. 5th. The above premium is offered for the purpose of developing data of the greatest value to swine breeders, and while the exact weight of food used during the one hundred day test is not required, competitors are earnestly requested to keep accurate account of the weight, and report each kind of food consumed daily by the sow and her litter of pigs during the continuance of the test. 6th. Entries on the form prescribed by the American Berkshire Association must be filed with the Secretary of said organization for the above premium as soon as each test is completed, and no entries will be received later than December 31, 1894. 7th. The award will be made by three disinterested and reputable parties, to be selected by the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., and on receipt of the report of said committee at the office of the American Berkshire Association the premium will be awarded and the pigs shipped to the successful competitor.

W. E. SPICER.
THE BEST HAM—PREMIUM OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS OFFERED BY A. J. LOVEJOY, ROSCOE, ILL.

The Berkshire Ham is recognized throughout the world as the standard to which the breeder, feeder and dealer endeavors to attain in the production of the most highly-flavored, delicious and palatable article of food prepared for delighting and stimulating the appetite of man. The art of breeding a hog that will furnish the feeder the best foundation for the development of a lean, tender, firm and juicy ham, has been attained by a comparatively few of the many thousand farmers engaged in this business. The feeder who has given the matter of providing a ration for the production of the best quality of well-marbled ham, of fine toothsome grain and excellence in flavor, is the rare exception. The man who has mastered the science of selecting the best quality of ham and curing the same in such an artistic manner as to improve the flavor, retain the juicy quality characteristic of the most tender and palatable ham, and add to the color and aroma that makes the plate containing the delightful morsel of food a most appetizing gem of art, can render his day and generation no better service than by widely advertising said information. For the purpose of directing the attention of the breeder, feeder and dealer in Berkshire pork products to the great importance of attaining a more general and higher degree of excellence in the production and preparation of the best quality of Berkshire ham, the undersigned offers a premium for the best ham exhibited by a Berkshire breeder residing in the United States or the Provinces of Ontario or Quebec, Canada. The premium will consist of a boar and two sow pigs of my own breeding, that could not be purchased at private sale for one hundred dollars in cash. Conditions—1st. That the ham entered in competition for the above prize must be from a pure-bred and recorded Berkshire barrow. 2nd. That early notice of intention to compete for said premium must be filed with the Secretary of the American Berkshire Association, Col. Charles F. Mills, Springfield, Illinois. 3rd. That each competitor shall file with his entry a full and complete statement of the method of feeding the preparation, curing and handling of the ham from slaughter to the date of shipment of the ham to the committee on awards. 4th. The above premium is offered for the purpose of developing data of the greatest value to swine breeders and dealers in pork products, and while the exact weight and variety of the rations fed the barrow for this competition is not required, competitors are earnestly requested to keep accurate account of the weight and report each kind of food consumed by the barrow prior to killing. 5th. Entries on the form prescribed by the American Berkshire Association must be filed for the above premium with the Secretary of the Association prior to December 31, 1894. 6th. The time and place for competition in each State will be announced, so as to give ample time for the curing of the ham and completing arrangements for the State competition. 7th. The selection of the best ham from each State to compete for this International premium will be made by three disinterested and reputable residents of the respective States. The ham selected by the State Committee will then be forwarded to the International Jury of Awards for the final competition. On receipt of the report of said committee at the office of the American Berkshire Association, the premium will be awarded and the pigs shipped to the successful competitor.

A. J. LOVEJOY.
 Immediately on receiving notices of the above prizes, we at once wrote Mr. Chas. F.

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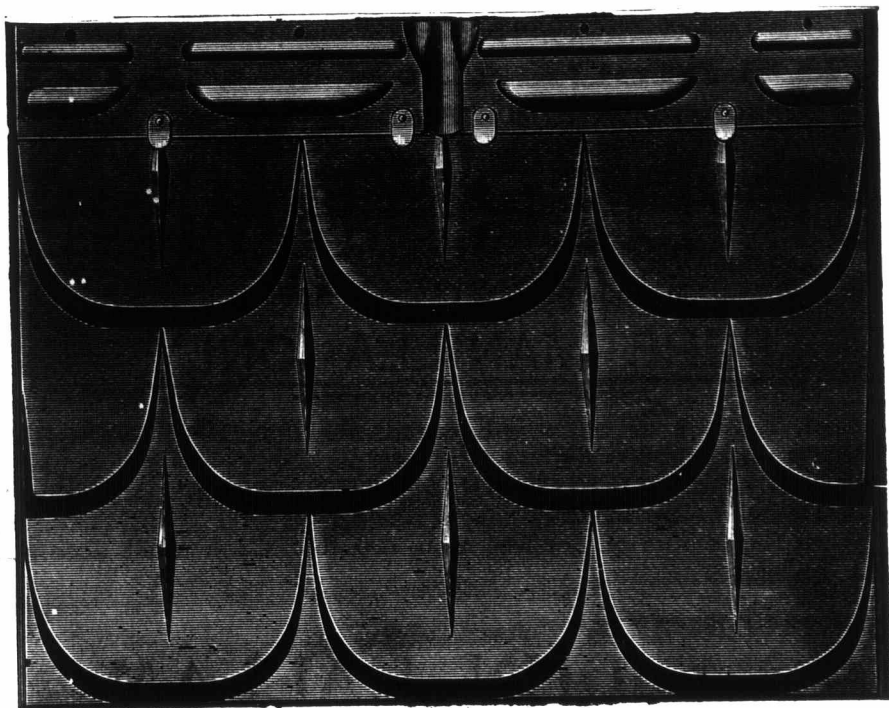
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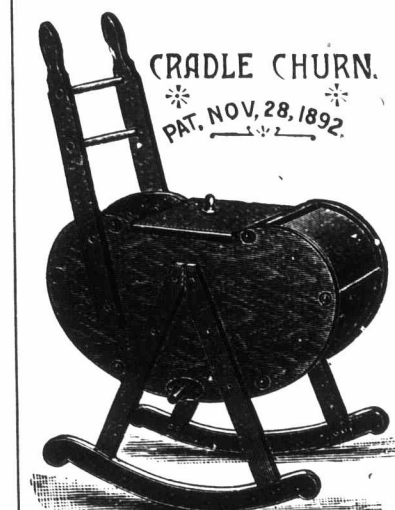
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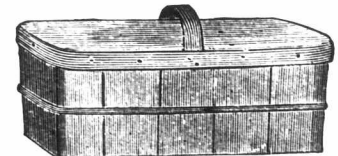
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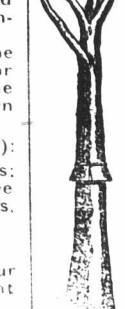
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